

ABILENE REFLECTOR

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CURRENT COMMENT.

It is announced that Queen Victoria will give away two thousand titles and decorations at her jubilee.

The iron and steel trade of the United States in 1886 was active, but it is expected to be still more active in 1887.

A YOUNG Italian named Vincenzo, with a mezzo-soprano voice, has gone to Paris to seek his fortune on the stage.

The boodle Aldermen of New York are more enthusiastic in their admiration for the great Anglo-Saxon right of trial by jury.

The reflection of the electric lights at New Orleans, La., can be plainly seen at the fifty-one mile point on the Mississippi river below.

SENATOR STANFORD is said to have spent fully ten thousand dollars in purchasing Christmas presents for the poor of Washington.

The winter carnival at Montreal will be held from February 7 to 12. The ice castle will enclose an area of fourteen thousand square feet, and be of an entirely new design.

A PHILADELPHIA paper thinks it curious that with all our smartness in this age of ingenuity we have invented nothing that can take the slipperiness out of ice.

KNIGHT-OF-THE-CUE SLOSSON has been sent for twenty-five thousand dollars damages by James E. Fellows, of Chicago, the man whom Slosson had arrested for perjury a short time ago.

SENATOR JONES, of Nevada, is a veritable mascot. It is reported that lately in a single day he made four million dollars. This, however, is not an every-day occurrence with him.

The savings banks of New York State have \$475,000,000 on deposit, and a surplus above all liabilities of \$85,000,000. The Massachusetts savings banks have \$25,000,000 in deposits and \$5,000,000 surplus.

On the anniversary of the death of Alphonso XII. of Spain, the Queen Regent founded an asylum for persons invaded by hard work, and the leaders of Spanish society have subscribed liberally to the fund for its endowment. A good example which should be followed everywhere.

COTTON has long since ceased to be king among the crops of the country at large, and there is a probability that it will soon lose the scepter even in the South. Other crops have proven to be far more profitable, and they are gradually gaining on cotton in the contest for supremacy.

OLD and mutilated bank notes when returned to the United States Treasury are chopped up and made into a pulp which is molded into various shapes and forms. The latest design is a miniature bust of Mrs. Cleveland, which has a ready sale. It takes ten thousand dollars' worth of old bank notes to make one of these designs.

MR. HEWITT recently announced that it was his purpose, as mayor of New York, to give the people the kind of administration they had been clamoring for, and banish politics from the City Hall for two years to come. The resolution is an excellent one, and it is to be hoped that he has the courage and perseverance to carry it out.

SOME months ago the natives of a certain district in Australia predicted the approach of floods and left their low-lying villages for the higher country. The floods came several weeks later, and the natives said that their information had been gathered from the ants, which had built their nests in the trees, instead of, as usual, on the ground.

EIGHTY years is a long time for any living person to have his name borne on an army list, but that is an honor which is now enjoyed by the Emperor of Germany. A great deal of history has been made in the seventy-two years which have passed since William took an active part in the campaign which resulted in the overthrow of the great Napoleon, and William has aided in making some of the most stirring chapters in it.

THE New York Supreme Court recently decided that baby life insurance was illegal. The precise ground of the decision was that children can not be insured because they are incapable of making contracts, but it is a fact that the knowledge that the death of an infant will be a monetary benefit to its parents or guardians has too often reduced the care which would otherwise be bestowed upon it, and thus infantile mortality has been increased.

A YOUNG sailor named Welch, in the United States Navy, is credited with having invented a remarkable and complete life buoy. It is a circular belt in which are mounted six vertical hollow tubes. These are filled with, first, Greek fire in sufficient quantity to burn fifty seconds; second, Roman candles that explode every ten seconds, and, third, with a sort of rocket to which are attached life lines. These as the rocket explodes are projected in six different directions, giving the drowning man as many chances for his life.

A PHILADELPHIA doctor, who was mortified once because remarks were made on account of his taking a little nip from a pocket flask, has invented a method of carrying refreshments that is likely to be popular in prohibition States. His invention is a little capsule of rubber, looking much like a grape, which is filled with liquor and distended until it assumes the form and semblance of a large and juicy fruit. These grapes hold about as much as a grape skin between the teeth, and no one would think they were not grapes.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned by Telegraph and Mail.

CONGRESS.

The Senate met on the 4th, and as soon as the journal was read Senator Cullom announced the death of Senator Logan, and on his motion out of respect to the memory of deceased the Senate adjourned. The House met and after the resignation of Mr. Hewitt, as a member from New York city, the death of Senator Logan was announced and the House adjourned.

In the Senate on the 5th Mr. Mitchell, of Pennsylvania, reported a bill granting a pension of \$2,000 a year to the widow of General Logan. Mr. Mitchell offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement of the indebtedness of the Pacific railroad to the Government.

The conference report on the Interstate Commerce bill was then debated until adjournment. In the House the Indian Appropriation bill was considered in Committee of the Whole and finally passed. It appropriates \$1,750,000. The Military Academy bill also passed. The Speaker laid before the House the resignation of James W. Reid, of the Fifth North Carolina district. The House then, in Committee of the Whole, took up the bill for the consolidation of certain bureaus of the Navy Department and then adjourned.

In the Senate on the 6th Mr. Manderson stated that a stronger and more urgent demand should be made against Mexico for the killing of Captain Crawford while in pursuit of Geronimo and introduced a bill for the relief of Crawford's heirs. The Senate then took up and agreed to Mr. Manderson's resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement of the indebtedness of the Pacific railroad, and then passed the bill granting a pension of \$2,000 a year to the widow of General Logan. A bill offered by Mr. Vest increasing the pension of the widow of General P. Blair to \$2,000 a year was also passed. The Interstate Commerce bill was taken up and debated until adjournment.

In the House, in Committee of the Whole, the bill was considered for the permanent improvement of the Erie and Oswego rivers. At the expiration of the morning hour the House again went into Committee of the Whole on the Naval Reorganization bill, which was debated until adjournment.

In the Senate on the 7th a bill passed to settle and adjust the claims of any State for expense incurred for defense of the United States. Several private bills passed. The House bill providing for a school of instruction at Fort Riley, Kan., was amended by appropriating \$50,000 for Fort D. Russell and \$50,000 for Fort Robinson, Nebraska, for the sale of the State Commerce bill was laid over till Monday. After an executive session the Senate adjourned until Monday.

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KANSAS STATE NEWS.

A Railroad Decision.

The Board of Railroad Commissioners recently rendered the following decision in the matter of the complaint of the citizens of Neosho Rapids, Melvern and Quenemo against the Southern Kansas Railroad company: "That the petitioners have shown that each of the above towns requesting the board to use their influence with the respondent company to run two trains each way daily on the Southern Kansas between Ottawa and Emporia, making the round trip each day. The number of petitions and the size and importance of the towns from whence they came have led us to a very careful investigation of the situation in order to accommodate said communities if we could see our way clear to do so without injustice, but as yet we are unable to see how we can reasonably make an order directing the operating on that line of an additional train. A report of the auditor of the Kansas city & Emporia railroad for the month of September 30, 1886, shows the total expenses to have been \$50,648.81. Total earnings for same period, \$33,109.57. Deficit, \$17,539.24. In view of the present condition of the road, and the expense of running two trains each way daily on the line, we cannot justly require the company to run and operate an additional train at the present time."

HAZZAN H. WHEEL, assignee of Martin Kalbfleisch & Sons, of New York, filed the schedules of the firm a short time ago in the Court of Common Pleas. They show liabilities of \$675,115, with contingent liabilities of \$97,483, or a total of \$772,600 with nominal assets amounting to \$375,805.

ARMOUR & Co., the well known packers of Chicago and Kansas City, through their agent at Washington were recently awarded the contract for furnishing 137,000 pounds of bacon at the Pawnee Indian Agency at 6 1/2 cents per pound.

SEVENTY-FIVE glass manufacturers, representing all sections of the country, met at Pittsburgh, Pa., a short time ago and formed the American Association of Flint and Glass Manufacturers. There was no discussion of prices or wages.

The gate keepers of the military prison at Madrid, Spain, recently decamped with the keys of the prison, and the inmates were nine. No trace of them can be found. The escape caused a sensation, giving evidence of intrigues by the revolutionary party.

TELEGRAMS of a recent date from Mendoza, Argentine Republic, said that there were four cases of cholera in the city and nineteen in the hospital. The hospital patients are persons from the country. The epidemic continued to decline.

ANOTHER strike was recently threatened on the line of the Brooklyn City and the Broadway street railway lines, owing to the position taken by Presidents Lewis and Beers in the matter of time tables.

THE wages question at the Edgar Thompson steel works at Pittsburgh, Pa., has been finally settled by the arbitration committee, and work will be resumed in all departments. The new scale advances wages on a general average ten per cent. These works employ over 3,000 men.

THE Government expected to begin proceedings against the late Senator Charles Sumner in Boston a short time ago. A WASHINGTON special lately said that the names of Congressmen holding "calls" on Union Pacific would soon be published, and there was much alarm in certain circles. It was rumored that over \$500,000 could be traced to members as having been paid by the railroad to secure the passage of the Funding bill. One Congressman is said to have received \$250,000.

THE crisis of the St. Louis case on the 7th, counsel for Fotheringham applied for a reduction of his client's bail. He was indicted on two charges, and the court fixed the bail in each case at \$800. The original amount was \$500,000, \$100,000 in each case.

A recent dispatch from London, in which small-pox was feared in Brooklyn, and that a vigorous course of action was being applied.

A CONSTRUCTION train on the Alabama & Georgia railroad, near the town of Chattanooga, Tenn., recently struck a cow, left the rails, went down an embankment and was wrecked, the engineer and fireman being killed.

A RECENT Ottawa, Ont., special said that several cases of small-pox among the army were being settled by the Minister of Customs. They involved several New York and Chicago houses.

A PECULIAR case was begun in the Superior Court at Boston on the 7th, being the suit of Maurice S. Fitzgerald, a Catholic clergyman, against Archbishop Williams, to recover damages for being, as he claims, wrongfully deposed from his position. The Archbishop, upon charges of immorality, ordered him into seclusion and expelled him. He declined to obey and was suspended.

It was officially stated a short time ago that 465 persons were burned to death in the incendiary fire which destroyed the residence of the late Senator John P. St. John at Madison, Wis.

THE lunacy proceedings instituted by Prof. Emmons against Welta A. Emmons, his wife, were continued in the old circuit court room at Washington on the 7th. There was no change in the proceedings. The deputy marshal was obliged to close the door and refused entrance to all who were not in some way connected with the case.

WILLIAM E. EARL, proprietor of the largest cider mills in New Jersey, committed suicide recently at his place near Newark, by hanging himself.

THE annual banquet of the Jackson Club, in celebration of the birthday of Andrew Jackson, was held at the Hotel Hamilton, on the night of the 7th. Judge Thurman, Congressman Lawler and other leading Democrats made speeches.

It was reported a short time ago that the police of New York were going to dig up the six feet deep trench, twelve feet wide and fifty feet long in search of a woman who was supposed to have been murdered by her husband.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES. RECENTLY A. Caruthers, David Porter and John Thurston started to walk to St. Paul, Minn., to deliver a message to the President. Caruthers only arrived alive, the other two being frozen to death.

THE coal dealers in New York City recently advanced the price of coal, as the article was getting scarce in consequence of the strike of the coal handlers.

AT the Glendon stone quarries, near Easton, Pa., five chambers, 200 feet long and sixty feet high, were recently filled with twenty-two and a half tons of giant powder, exploded by electricity, causing a mass of rock estimated at 200,000 to 500,000 tons.

REV. FATHER STUMPE, pastor of St. Ann's Church, New York, disappeared a short time ago with a large amount of money raised by the church for the purpose of erecting a new building.

A DISPATCH from London said that it was now certain that the recent mail robberies in Belgium were perpetrated by a gang of skilled thieves, who were now in the hands of the police.

IN the House on the 5th Mr. Cox, of North Carolina, from the Committee on Civil Service Reform, reported back the Senate bill repealing the Tenure of Office act. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the bill, and after a long discussion the bill was passed.

THE Senate resolution was afterward passed appointing James P. Angell a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Mr. Hiram A. New York, introduced a bill to reduce internal taxation by removing the taxes on native tobacco and offering bounties to American sugar producers. Mr. Springer, of Illinois, presented an amendment to the Pacific Railroad Funding bill, and Mr. Willis, of Kentucky, reported the River and Harbor bill and then the House adjourned.

THE German ship Elizabeth, from Hamburg to Baltimore, was recently wrecked with all her crew on the Virginia coast, near the Little Island life-saving station, 140 miles south of Cape Henry. Not less than twenty-seven lives, including five life-savers, were lost.

A FIRE at New York recently destroyed the five-story brick building and contents at Nos. 330 and 332 West Thirtieth street. The first floor was occupied by the owner, George Steiner, as a kindling-wood factory, and there the fire began. Several firemen were hurt by falling walls. The estimated loss is \$125,000, with some insurance. Cause unknown.

A LARGE fire started early on the morning of the 9th at Lawrence, Kan., and did damage to the amount of nearly a quarter of a million dollars. The warehouse was just being completed, but an unfortunate break rendered them useless.

DEATH OF THE RAIL.

Two Shocking Railway Accidents in One Day.

Nineteen Persons Killed and Many More Injured on the Baltimore & Ohio, and One Killed and Several Injured at Middletown, Mass.

TRIPLEX, O. Jan. 8.—An east-bound freight, drawn by engine No. 734, while running on an up-grade nine miles east of here, and within half a mile of the village of Republic, gave out and was unable to make the grade. The conductor ran forward with a signal to flag the fast train, No. 5, but it was too late, the train was less than a quarter of a mile distant, running at the rate of sixty-three miles per hour, and it crashed into the freight, wrecking it, and killing nineteen persons, and injuring many more. The baggage, express, smoking and one passenger car of the passenger train.

Within an incredible short space of time the wreck was in flames and the injured passengers were being burned. The passengers in the two sleepers and one coach escaped, numbering about fifty. Nineteen passengers in the smoker were all killed. One Irish emigrant alone escaped from the smoker, but afterwards died of his wounds. He did not give his name.

The engineer of the passenger jumped and escaped with a dislocated knee. The fireman was pinned between the beams, crushing his hips. He lived three hours in that position and then died. His charred and blackened body was laid on the floor of the undertaker's room. The sight was a horrible one, and there was no resemblance to human bodies in the remains. At least ten more are supposed to have perished and been entirely burned up. There is nothing but the bodies which can help to identify them.

Among those identified are: Jos. Postlewaite, aged fifty-seven years, and his two sons, Spencer and Henry, aged eighteen and eleven respectively. He was from New Martinsville, W. Va., and was accompanied by his wife and three other small children, the four latter being saved. They were on their way to Chillicothe, Mo., to make that their home.

C. P. Bradley, of One Hundred and Twelfth street, D. C., a prominent Knight of Labor, on his way west to lecture, was held by the foot in the car, his body protruding from the window. It was impossible to extricate him and he burned to death by inches. He gave his watch and papers into the safe keeping of others.

Mr. Smith, of Benwood, W. Va., was in the car next to the scene of the crash. He says the shock was not a very great one. He was thrown from his seat and thought the train had left the track. Nobody was very seriously hurt in his coach beyond bruises, cuts and burns.

Physicians were summoned from this city and Republic, and rendered efficient service to the wounded. About a dozen persons were wounded, in addition to those killed, not mentioned above.

Prominent railway officials were present investigating the scene of the disaster. It is impossible to tell now who was to blame, but it is learned that the engineer, fireman and the whole crew of the freight train were drunk and negligent of duty. The corner of the county will make a full investigation. The wounded were all hustled out of the county as quickly as possible by the railroad officials.

The accident is charged to the conductor and engineer of the freight train. They pulled out of Republic at five o'clock, and gave a jerk that drew the tooth from his head. He lay back in the chair entirely exhausted and closed his eyes. I thought for a moment that he would faint, and brought him a glass of water, asking if it hurt him much. Looking up to me, he said: "Yes, it hurt like fury."

"I find almost without exception that military and naval men are great cowards in a dentist's chair; the braver they are in battle the more nervous they seem to be when they come to get their teeth fixed."

"I think about the worst patient I ever had was an officer of the army, formerly on General Howard's staff. He was a very gallant officer during the war, was shot all to pieces, and I believe has since died from the wounds he received in battle. At the time he came to me he was full of lead, and carried the scars he received in battle. But I never in all my life had so nervous and excitable a man in my chair. Every time I made a move toward him he would shrink, and once when I touched the nerve he shed genuine tears and begged me, like a child would beg his mother, not to hurt him so again."

—Washington Cor. Chicago News

THE MIDDLETOWN DISASTER. SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Jan. 4.—Middletown was the scene of a frightful accident early this morning. The Modoc train from Albany approached the depot one hour behind time and running about thirty-five miles an hour, and within a few rods of the depot gave out and crashed into the freight train, which was standing on the west-bound main track. The freight train was wrecked, the baggage and smoker and one day coach immediately took fire and were consumed, except the bodies and trucks. The head of the first sleeping car was charred, but otherwise undamaged. LAST OF THE RAIL.

Charles B. Packard, Westfield, printer, son of Dr. Packard of Westfield, injured in loin and other severe internal injuries; also had scalp wound. It is feared he will not recover.

Frank Thompson, recently of the United States Life Saving station at Campbell, near San Francisco, cut and burned about the hip and legs.

John Landers, West Springfield, fireman of the local freight, badly gashed about the head and face.

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Whitford, Providence, R. I.: thrown from seat and bruised. Mr. Whitford was badly cut under the lower jaw.

Lester L. Worden, Springfield, cut on leg.

C. H. Clark, colored, Windsor Locks, Conn.; thrown out of window and left leg cut and bruised.

Mrs. J. M. Jenks and daughter, Mrs. P. M. Chandler, of Troy, N. Y., on their way to Ludlow with the body of Mr. Jenks; Mrs. Jenks slightly sprained her ankle. The body of Mr. Jenks was burned.

T. Dwyer and Melrose Dwyer, with their aged daughter, Miss Mary Sekerian, of Honolulu, Hawaiian islands. Miss Sekerian had her face slightly cut.

The through New York and Chicago mail was on this train, and the mail for all New England. The rest of the mail pouches of this mail, and all were destroyed. All the Westfield and Pittsfield mail, and the Albany letter mail were destroyed, making fourteen letter pouches that were burned. There were about twenty sacks of newspaper mail on the train, and all but seven of those sacks were burned.

Two More Wrecks. ELmira, N. Y., Jan. 8.—At four o'clock yesterday morning the west-bound Erie express train, No. 13, came into collision with an engine, upon which were seven men, in the Southport yard in this city. Conductor Wheeler had his collar bone broken in two places. Engineer A. Wal-lack, Fireman Griffin, Express Messenger Cromwell and a brakeman were badly bruised, but not seriously injured. Engines Nos. 524 and 57 and one express car were wrecked. The west-bound track was blocked for nine hours. At Painted Post, trains were also delayed by another wreck, in which several cars were burned and a brakeman named Munn, of Elmira, was slightly injured.

Reduction of Hours and a Strike. NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 4.—The new labor law, regulating the hours of labor for women and children employed in factories, went into operation yesterday. It fixed a day's labor for all boys under eighteen and all women at ten hours, or sixty hours a week, from which one hour each day is to be deducted for dinner. The owners of the Magninies & Lane cotton mills, who employ a large number of women and boys, announced yesterday that they would obey the law and reduce the hours of labor, but that this would require them to reduce the pay ten per cent. Upon hearing this a number of employes struck and left the mills.

NERVOUS HEROES.

They Could Face the Mule of Battle, But Quailed in a Dentist's Chair.

Having occasion to visit a dentist the other day I asked him if it was the most nervous man he ever had in his chair.

"Bless you, no," replied the tooth-tinker. "You are only about the average patient and it would surprise you to see how some of the big men act when they come here to get their teeth fixed. General Sheridan, for example, is one of the worst men in a dentist's chair you ever saw, and General Logan is even worse than he. Why, Logan is as tender as a baby, and will shrink at the slightest touch on his nerves. He jumps and grunts and groans, and takes on worse than if he were having his leg cut off."

"General Burnside, on the contrary, was one of the most patient and enduring men I ever saw. I have had him in my chair a number of times and have felt a lot of his teeth. He would sit quietly without making a moan or saying a word from the time he took his seat until the job was finished. He always seemed to be grateful that I had not caused him any more pain, and when I would ask him, as I did some times, 'Does that hurt you, general?' he would reply, 'O, no, not much; go on and let's get done with it, the sooner the job is over the better.'"

"Andrew Johnson, when he was Vice-President and when he was in the Senate, came to my office several times, and was a very good patient, taking things philosophically and making me very little trouble. I once filled four teeth for him at a sitting, and every one of them was in good condition. The job lasted nearly five hours and must have hurt him dreadfully, but he never winced, and did not seem to have any nerves at all."

"Old Zach. Chandler was another good patient. He would sit in the chair almost motionless, and would let me drill away at his teeth without any remonstrance or show of pain. But one time, when I undertook to draw a tooth for him, I thought the old man would go crazy. It was a tough old grinder, and had been troubling him a good deal, being ulcerated around the roots. I got a good hold with the nippers, and the first time I nearly lifted him out of the chair. But it did not come. I took hold again, and lifted him the same as before. I saw that his face was quite pale, and asked him if he did not want to rest. He said: 'No, I would like to have it out at once.' But as the operation was evidently so painful, and as he seemed to keep growing paler, I suggested that he had better take ether. He declined, saying that he never took an anesthetic in his life, and never would. Turning around sharply, he told me to go on and have it over without further delay. I got hold again and gave a jerk that drew the tooth from his head. He lay back in the chair entirely exhausted and closed his eyes. I thought for a moment that he would faint, and brought him a glass of water, asking if it hurt him much. Looking up to me, he said: 'Yes, it hurt like fury.'"

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